What is claimed is:

1. A substrate for an information recording medium, which is formed of a glass having a glass transition temperature (Tg) of 600°C or higher and having an etching rate of 0.1 μm/minute or less with regard to a hydrosilicofluoric acid aqueous solution that is maintained at a temperature of 45°C and has a hydrosilicofluoric acid concentration of 1.72 % by weight.

2. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the glass contains SiO_2, Al_2O_3, CaO and K_2O as essential components.

3. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 2, wherein the glass has a composition comprising, by mol%, 45 to 70 % of SiO_2, 1 to 15 % of Al_2O_3, the total content of SiO_2 and Al_2O_3 being 57 to 85 %, 2 to 25 % of CaO, 0 to 15 % of BaO, 0 to 15 % of MgO, 0 to 15 % of SrO, 0 to 10 % of ZnO, the total content of MgO, CaO, SrO, BaO and ZnO being 2 to 30 %, more than 0 % but not more than 15 % of K_2O, 0 to 8 % of Li_2O, 0 to 8 % of Na_2O, the total content of K_2O, Li_2O and Na_2O being 2 to 15 %, 0 to 12 % of ZrO_2 and 0 to 10 % of TiO_2, the total content of said components being at least 95 %.

4. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the glass contains SiO_2, Al_2O_3, CaO, Na_2O and K_2O and has a chemically strengthened layer.

5. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 4, wherein the glass has a composition comprising, by mol%, 47 to 70 % of SiO_2, 1 to 10 % of Al_2O_3, the total content of SiO_2 and Al_2O_3 being 57 to 80 %, 2 to 25 % of CaO, 1 to 15 % of BaO, 1 to 10 % of Na_2O, more than

0 % but not more than 15 % of K_2O, 0 to 3 % of Li_2O, the total content of Na_2O, K_2O and Li_2O being 3 to 16 %, 1 to 12 % of ZrO_2, 0 to 10 % of MgO, 0 to 15 % of SrO, 0 to 10 % of ZnO, the total content of MgO, CaO, SrO, BaO and ZnO being 3 to 30 %, the ratio of the content of CaO to the total content of MgO, CaO, SrO and BaO being at least 0.5, and 0 to 10 % of TiO_2, the total content of said components being at least 95 %.

6. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the glass contains SiO_2, Al_2O_3, CaO, BaO, Na_2O and ZrO_2 as essential components and has a chemically strengthened layer,

7. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in claim 6, wherein the glass has a composition comprising, by mol%, 47 to 70 % of SiO_2, 1 to 10 % of Al_2O_3, the total content of SiO_2 and Al_2O_3 being 57 to 80 %, 2 to 25 % of CaO, 1 to 15 % of BaO, 1 to 10 % of Na_2O, 0 to 15 % of K_2O, 0 to 3 % of Li_2O, the total content of Na_2O, K_2O and Li_2O being 3 to 16 %, 1 to 12 % of ZrO_2, 0 to 10 % of MgO, 0 to 15 % of SrO, 0 to 10 % of ZnO, the total content of MgO, CaO, SrO, BaO and ZnO being 3 to 30 %, the ratio of the content of CaO to the total content of MgO, CaO, SrO and BaO being at least 0.5, and 0 to 10 % of TiO_2, the total content of said components being at least 95 %.

8. The substrate for an information recording medium as recited in any one of claims 1 to 7, which is for use in a perpendicular-magnetic-recording-mode information recording medium.

9. An information recording medium having an information recording layer formed on the substrate for an information recording medium recited in any one of claims 1 to 8.

10. The information recording medium as recited in claim 8, which is a perpendicular-magnetic-recording-mode magnetic recording medium.

11. A process for manufacturing an information recording medium, which comprises the step of forming an information recording layer on a substrate for an information recording medium and uses the substrate for an information recording medium recited in any one of claims 1 to 8 as said substrate, said step comprising the procedure of heating said substrate to a temperature of 300 to 600°C.